Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 50, 54-56 and 59 without prejudice or disclaimer. Please amend Claims 60-63 and add new Claims 65-68 as set forth below.

1-59. (Canceled)

60. (Currently amended) A method of treating a subject, the method comprising the direct introduction and expression of a DNA sequence ~~comprising a promoter sequence operably linked to a sequence~~ encoding a potassium channel protein into ~~penile~~ smooth muscle cells of the subject.

61. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 68, ~~60,~~ wherein the promoter is a smooth muscle specific promoter.

62. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 60, wherein the smooth muscle cells are penile smooth muscle cells and the potassium channel protein is maxi-K.

63. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 60, wherein the smooth muscle cells are penile smooth muscle cells and the potassium channel protein is K_{ATP}.

64. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 60, wherein the DNA sequence is introduced by naked DNA transfer.

65. (New) The method of Claim 60, wherein the smooth muscle cells are arterial smooth muscle cells or visceral smooth muscle cells.

66. (New) The method of Claim 60, wherein the smooth muscle cells are located in the bladder, blood vessel walls, bowel, bronchi of the lungs, endopelvic fascia, penis, prostate gland, ureter, urethra, uterus, or vas deferens of the subject.

67. (New) The method of Claim 60, wherein the smooth muscle cells are bladder visceral smooth muscle cells, colonic visceral smooth muscle cells, corporal visceral smooth muscle cells, gastrointestinal visceral smooth muscle cells, prostatic visceral smooth muscle cells, or urethral visceral smooth muscle cells.

68. (New) The method of Claim 60, wherein the DNA sequence further comprises a promoter sequence operably linked to the sequence encoding the potassium channel protein.